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PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 4329.2763



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Mie MATSUO et al.)	
)	
Application No.: 10/092,529)	Group Art Unit: 3627
)	
Filed: March 8, 2002)	Examiner: Kramer, James A.
)	
For: METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM)	
PRODUCT FOR TRADING)	
ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the Japan Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO 1449.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of an Office Action from the Japan Patent Office in a corresponding application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed, along with the Japanese language original. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusions set forth in the Official Action. Applicants also provide English language abstracts for Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 06-195402, Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 10-275191, and Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 11-224284.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

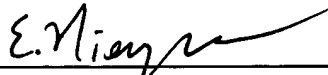
Customer No. 22,852
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Application No. 10/092,529

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

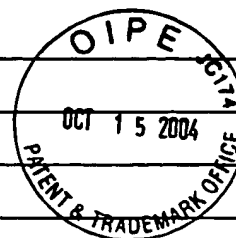
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 15, 2004

By: 
Elizabeth A. Niemeyer
Reg. No. 52,070

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 4329.2763	Appln. No. 10/092,529
Applicant Mie MATSUO et al.	
Filing Date March 8, 2002	Group: 3627



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 06-195402	07/15/94	Japan			No
	Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 10-275191	10/13/98	Japan			No
	Jap. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Pub. No. 11-224284	08/17/99	Japan			No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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	SIC and Design Center Which Becomes More Important, Nikkei Electronics, Japan, Nikkei BP Co., Ltd., January 3, 1994, Issue No. 598, pp. 107 to 114
	Shin-ichi MORIGAWA, A synonym for "Judgment of Construction Cost from 0 to Several Million Yen Based on Advantageous Effect of Purchase of Modestly Priced Items or Improvement of Work Efficiency," Nikkei Open System, Japan, Nikkei BP Co., Ltd., March 15, 2001, Volume 96, pp. 136 to 145
	Naoko RIKITAKE, Effective "Internet Business Talk," NTT Reduces Material Procurement Period by 70%, and Matsushita Set Target to Halve the Period, Nikkei Information Strategy, Japan, Nikkei BP Co. Ltd., June 24, 1999, Volume 8, Issue No. 6, pp. 62 to 70

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce